5. Instructions for Downloading the TIGER/Line Shapefiles

5.1 Getting Started

There are four methods for downloading TIGER/Line Shapefiles from the U.S. Census Bureau:

- Website Interface
- Direct from FTP Site
- Connect via FTP Client
- Direct from Data.gov

To download the shapefiles you need an Internet Browser or an FTP client, as well as a utility that can unzip files. The files downloaded are zipped to save space and ensure you download all of the necessary files. Most systems have an unzipping utility built-in to the operation system. However, there are several free or low cost unzipping utilities such as WinZIP.

The examples below are from the 2013 version of the TIGER/Line Shapefiles but can be used for all recent TIGER/Line Shapefile versions.

5.2 Website Interface

The website interface download method requires the least amount of technical knowledge. Start at the U.S. Census Bureau's TIGER website:

http://www.census.gov/geo/maps-data/data/tiger-line.html

- Select the tab for the version of TIGER/Line Shapefiles (e.g. 2013).
- Click on Download.
- Choose Web interface. (see Figure 8 below)



Figure 8: Click the appropriate tab and then click on download to access the web interface

- Select the geographic entity from the drop down menu you would like to download (e.g. census tracts) and click Submit. (see Figure 9 below)
- Choose the state and click Download. (see Figure 9 below) For a county-based file, you also need to choose the county on the following screen.

- Save the file to your computer or open the zip file.
- Repeat as necessary.

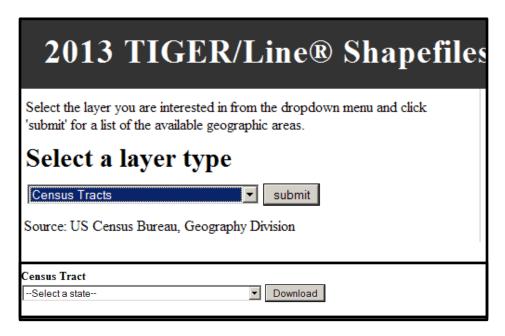


Figure 9: An example of the menus available in the web interface

5.3. Direct from FTP Site

Another option is to go directly to the Census Bureau's FTP site through a web browser. The address for the TIGER/Line Shapefiles is:

ftp://ftp2.census.gov/geo/tiger/ or http://www2.census.gov/geo/tiger/

- Navigate to the version of the TIGER/Line Shapefiles to download (e.g. TIGER2013).
- Navigate to the geographic entity to download (e.g. TRACT). (see Figure 10 below) Refer to Table 2 for the shapefile naming convention.

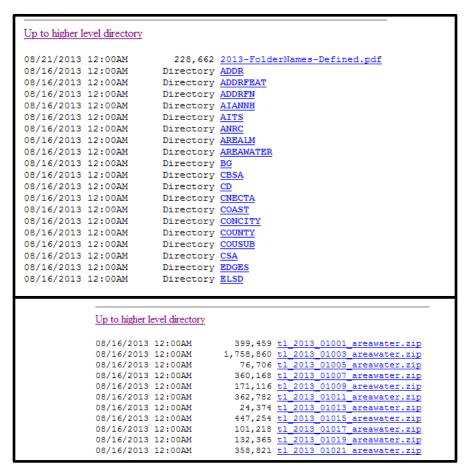


Figure 10: An example of the directory structure within the FTP site.

- Click on the shapefile name to download.
- If prompted, use "anonymous" for the user name and password.

Table 7: 2014 TIGER/Line Shapefile file name definitions

File Name	Shapefile/Relationship File
ADDR	Address Range Relationship File
ADDRFEAT	Address Range Feature
ADDRFN	Address Range-Feature Name Relationship
AIANNH	American Indian / Alaska Native / Native Hawaiian Areas
AITSN	American Indian Tribal Subdivision National

AREALM AREAWATER Area Hydrography BG BG Block Group CBSA Metropolitan Statistical Area / Micropolitan Statistical Area CBSAEC Metropolitan Statistical Area / Micropolitan Statistical Area (2012 Economic) CD Congressional District CNECTA Combined New England City and Town Area COASTLINE COASTLINE COASTLINE CONCITY Consolidated City CONCITY CONCITY COUNTY COU	ANRC	Alaska Native Regional Corporation
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	RAILS	Rails
	ROADS	All Roads
SCSD Secondary School Districts		•
SLDL State Legislative District – Lower Chamber		
SLDU State Legislative District – Upper Chamber		
STATE State and Equivalent		·
STATE State and Equivalent (2012 Economic)		·
SUBBARRIO SubMinor Civil Division (Subbarios in Puerto Rico)	SUBBARRIO	SubMinor Civil Division (Subbarios in Puerto Rico)
TABBLOCK Tabulation (Census) Block	TABBLOCK	Tabulation (Census) Block

TBG	Tribal Block Group
TRACT	Census Tract
TTRACT	Tribal Census Tract
UAC	Urban Area/Urban Cluster
UNSD	Unified School District
ZCTA5	5-Digit ZIP Code Tabulation Area

The files are named tl_2014_<geographic area>_<filename>.zip. For national files, the geographic area is represented as "us." For state and county-based files, the geographic area is represented with the state or county Federal Information Processing Series (FIPS) codes. The state codes are 2-character number and the county codes are 5-character numbers that include the 2-character state code and a 3-character county code. Lists of state and county FIPS codes can be found here: http://www.census.gov/geo/reference/ansi.html.

Web browsers also have the option to display FTP pages in a "windows explorer" type format. Entire directories (folders) can be copied at a time using copy and paste or drag and drop.

5.4 Connect vis FTP Client

To access a large number of files the best option is use an FTP client software to connect to the Census Bureau's FTP site. There are many free FTP clients. The host name must be the Census Bureau's main FTP site:

ftp2.census.gov.

Use "anonymous" for the user name and password. Then, navigate to the GEO, then TIGER folders.

5.5 Data.gov

The TIGER/Line Shapefiles are also available through the following website: www.data.gov.

- Under the Data dropdown, select "GEO DATA."
- Search by keyword and/or agency to find the individual shapefiles.

As new TIGER/Line Shapefiles become available, they will be added to Data.gov. Refer to Table 2 for the shapefile naming conventions.